

Calculate Government Borrowing From Your Social Security Contributions NS4 =  
(document.layers) ? true : false; function checkEnter(event) { var code = 0; if (NS4)  
code = event.which; else code = event.keyCode; if (code==13)  
document.myform.submit(); } Each week, through FICA  
contributions from their paychecks, millions of Americans contribute to the  
Social Security trust funds, the federal 'nest egg' that provides for their future  
benefits.

Under the budget proposed by the Bush Administration, the government is  
expected to borrow over \$2 trillion from these Social Security trust funds to  
pay for government spending over the next ten years. Moreover,  
Administration officials and Republican congressional leaders have called the  
trust funds "a mere accounting device"<sup>1</sup> from which  
employees will get "nothing in return"<sup>2</sup>

- indicating that the federal government does not plan to honor its  
commitment to paying back what it has borrowed from Social  
Security.

The calculator below shows how much of the money you pay  
into the Social Security program will be borrowed over the next ten  
years to pay for government spending. If the federal government does  
not repay the trust funds, as Republican leaders have suggested,  
none of this amount will be available to pay for your Social Security  
benefits.

**Government**  
**ENTER**

\$

**YOUR ANNUAL WAGES:**

per

year

**GOVERNMENT THIS YEAR :**

You

will contribute an estimated \$

**GOVERNMENT OVER THE NEXT :**

If your wages grow to the extent

1 House Majority Leader Dick Armey, Memo to House Republicans (July 5, 2001)

2 White House Spokesman Ari Fleischer, Associated Press (July 25, 2002)